IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/728,404

Title: Methods and Apparatus for Off-Axis
Lithographic Illumination

Filed: December 5, 2003

Group Art Unit: 2883

Examiner: Kalivoda, Christopher M.

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I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as enclosed therewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated: February 24, 2005.

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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In addition to the reasons for allowance set forth in the allowance papers that were mailed in connection with the present application, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable for the additional reasons that the invention defined by the language of the claims is neither anticipated by, nor would have been obvious when taken as a whole in view of, the art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 24, 2005